

the direction of the commissioners, may take proper measures for compelling the performance of the said contract; or they shall have power to compound with the purchaser on the same; and provided also, that at any time before such second sale the purchaser may secure the property he contracted for, by paying down the purchase money, with interest from the time of the contract, in current money, or any of the bills of credit or certificates aforesaid; or by entering into bond as aforesaid, for the principal sum, together with the interest that shall have accrued thereon, to be paid with interest, the payments to be made in the manner, at the times, and under the penalties, as before directed. And the current money paid for the said property, or bonds taken for the same, shall likewise constitute a part of the said general fund; provided nevertheless, that no bond given, or to be given, for property sold for the payment of private debts, and lodged in the treasury, under any act of the legislature, shall be considered as a part of the said general fund, nothing in this act being meant in any manner to affect the said debts, or the bonds given for the payment thereof.

4. *And be it enacted*, That the money and bank notes now lying in the western or eastern shore treasury, appropriated for the redemption of bills of credit commonly called red money, for the redemption of officers and soldiers certificates, for the redemption of bills of credit commonly called continental state money, for the payment of interest on certificates liquidated under an act passed May session 1781, and all unappropriated money whatever, now lying in either of the said treasuries, except as is hereafter mentioned in this act, shall be added to, and constitute a part of, the said general fund,

5. *And be it enacted*, That the money belonging to, or to be produced by, the said general fund, shall be deposited in a chest, and kept separate by the treasurer of the western shore, for the purposes of this act.

6. *And*, Whereas the period for the redemption of the bills commonly called red money is already arrived, *Be it enacted*, That any person possessed of any of the said bills may carry them to the said treasurer, who shall immediately redeem the same with the money belonging to the said general fund.

7. *And be it enacted*, That all sums already due and liquidated on any journal of accounts, and all sums due for arrears of what is commonly called the five months pay, shall be immediately paid by the treasurer on demand, out of the said money.

8. *And be it enacted*, That wherever provision is made by any act or resolve of the general assembly for the payment of interest due on any kind of certificates, and the same hath not already been done, the said interest shall be paid, on demand, out of the said money, agreeably to the said act or resolve; and the proprietors of all other certificates given for specie, shall, after the first day of January next, be entitled to receive from the treasurer one year's interest due thereon, upon demand.

9. *And be it enacted*, That the money belonging to, or to be produced by, the said general fund, be applied also to the discharge of all orders drawn or hereafter to be drawn on the said treasurer by proper authority, for any debt now due by the state, and not comprehended in the said bills of credit or certificates, or in any other kind of certificates.

10. *And be it enacted*, That the holder of any certificate, given or to be given, for specie, may, after the first day of January 1786, carry the same to the treasurer, and be entitled to receive all the interest due thereon, out of the money belonging to, or to be produced by, the said general fund; but if it shall happen, that there shall not be money enough to discharge such interest, the principal and the interest interest due thereon may, at the election of the holder, be consolidated, and a new certificate given for the whole, payable to the bearer, with interest. And, for the ease and convenience of the treasurer, wherever any person, bringing more than one certificate, shall elect such exchange, the treasurer may give one certificate for the whole. And the said certificate shall, to all intents and purposes, be placed and considered on the same footing with the old.

11. *And be it enacted*, That after the first day of July 1785, no account for money due by the state to any private person shall be liquidated, unless the party shall make appear to the auditor-general, by indifferent testimony, that he was out of the state, or in prison, at least four

months between the passing of this act and the said first day of July, or had not attained the age of twenty-one years; in all which cases it shall be lawful for the auditor-general to liquidate an account brought within three months after the impediment shall have been removed. And the auditor-general shall cause a copy of this clause to be inserted in every news-paper of Annapolis and Baltimore, every week between the first of January next, and the said first of July.

12. *And be it enacted*, That any person indebted to the state, on whatever account, except for one half of the taxes to be raised by virtue of the aforesaid act of November session 1783, may discount from his debt with the treasurer of the western shore, all sums of money due to him, on any order aforesaid, or on any journal of accounts aforesaid, or for arrears of the aforesaid five months pay; or if he be an assignee of any of the sums thus due, he may discount the same; or he may pay to the treasurer, or the collector, or other person appointed to receive such debt, any of the bills of credit heretofore emitted by the state, or any of the certificates given, or to be given, by virtue of any substituting law; and he shall be allowed for the interest due thereon.

13. *And be it enacted*, That until the first day of January 1787, no execution shall issue against any person indebted to the state for property forfeited for high treason, or for confiscated British property, provided the whole interest now due shall be paid or discounted by the first day of September next, in the same manner as the principal may be under this act, and provided also, the interest to become due on any day before the first day of January 1787 be punctually paid, or discounted in manner aforesaid.

14. *And be it enacted*, That after the first day of January 1787, any holder of bills of credit or certificates aforesaid, or any persons upon whom an order may be drawn as aforesaid, or his assignee, may bring the same to the treasurer, and, in exchange thereof, take an assignment from the treasurer in behalf of the state, of any bond passed or to be passed to the state, for property forfeited for high treason, or confiscated British property, already sold, or to be sold by virtue of this act, provided the money due on such bond for principal and interest, shall not exceed the amount of the said bills or certificates, with the interest due thereon. And if any bond taken by virtue of the "act to secure the certain redemption of bills of credit emitted by the state, and for which confiscated British property was pledged," passed May session 1781, shall be unpaid by the first of January 1787, or not assigned agreeably to that act, it may thereafter be assigned to any such holder of bills, or certificates, as aforesaid. And if any person, indebted to the state for the property aforesaid, shall not redeem his bond before the first of January 1787, and the said bond shall have been assigned agreeably to this act, it shall not be lawful for him to pay the assignee with bills of credit or certificates, but he shall be compellable to pay current money only; provided, that no assignee under this act shall be entitled to the remedy which the public had to compel payment, but only to the usual mode of recovery on assigned bonds.

15. *And be it enacted*, That the sum of fifteen thousand pounds shall be taken out of the money and bank notes now lying in the treasury as aforesaid, and shall be applied to the purpose of paying off the journal of accounts to be passed at this session of the general assembly, and of defraying the internal expences of government for the ensuing year; and the said sum shall be replaced as soon as possible, out of the money to be raised by any act for raising the supplies for the ensuing year; and the said sum shall then be appropriated to the aforesaid general fund, and be deposited in the chest aforesaid.

16. *And be it enacted*, That if it shall appear to the next general assembly, at their annual meeting, that there will not be a sufficient sum of money in the said chest, to redeem the bills of credit heretofore emitted by the state, which may be outstanding, at the periods fixed for their redemption, this general assembly, in the most solemn manner, plights the faith of the state, to provide a sum of money for that purpose, out of the surplus of the tax for the ensuing year, or in any other manner, which may be more expedient; and that the holders of the said bills may not apprehend the security for redeeming the same, to be rendered insufficient by this act, *be it enacted*, That if the whole amount of the said bills, which shall be outstanding at the next annual meeting of the general assembly,